



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
ACCORDING TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

APPLICANT(S): T. Niederdränk
SERIAL NO.: 10/608,589
FILED: June 27, 2003

DOCKET NO: P03,0228
ART UNIT: 2644
EXAMINER:
CONF. NO. 8450

TITLE: MODULAR HEARING AID DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98, Applicant respectfully requests that a citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO 1449 form be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States Patent.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) and before the latter occurrence of:

- (1) three months from the filing date of a national application;
- (2) three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

REMARKS

The attached PTO 1449 form lists related art references for the above identified application.

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

The relevance of references AA, AM and AN is discussed in the Specification. An English-language abstract of references AM and AN has been provided, and a full translation will be produced at the request of the Examiner. Reference AL was

cited during the prosecution of the priority case. A translation of the reference characters has been provided on the drawing figure and a full translation of this reference will be produced at the request of the Examiner.

The filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in the present Information Disclosure Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The above citation of related art is not a representation that such art constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of all pertinent related art, nor that it necessarily includes the closest or most relevant art. The aforementioned citation comprises a voluntary citation of related art of which applicant and his attorney are presently aware and is not intended to serve as a substitute for the Examiner's own search.

Submitted by,

Mark Bergner (Reg. No. 45,877)

Mark Bergner
SCHIFF HARDIN & WAITE
PATENT DEPARTMENT
6600 Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6473
(312) 258-5779
Attorney for Applicant(s)
CUSTOMER NUMBER 26574

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on October 21, 2003.

Mark Bergner

Form PTO-1449

Docket No.
P03,0228Serial No.
10/608,589

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**
(use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Torsten NiederdränkFiling Date
June 27, 2003Group Art Unit
2644**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate
	AA	5,204,917	04/20/1993	Arndt et al			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	G 88 04 743.1	09/21/1989	German Gebrauchsmuster			Ref chars	
	AM	196 35 229	03/12/1998	Germany			Abstract	
	AN	198 52 758	05/25/2000	Germany			Abstract	
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
	AR							
	AS							

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AT	
	AU	
	AV	
	AW	

Examiner

Date Considered

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.